WO 2004/046605 PCT/US2003/036541 <u>CLAIMS</u>

We claim:

- 1. A fitting for tube or pipe, said fitting having first and second legs extending with respect to each other at an included angle that differs from a right angle by about 2 degrees $\pm \frac{1}{2}$ degree.
- 2. The fitting of claim 1 wherein said included angle is a nominal value of about $88^{\circ} \pm .5^{\circ}$.
- 3. The fitting of claim 1 wherein said included angle is a nominal value of about $92^{\circ} \pm .5^{\circ}$.
- 4. The fitting of claim 1 wherein at least one of said legs has an end face that is generally normal to a central longitudinal axis thereof.
- 5. The fitting of claim 1 wherein each of said legs has a respective end face that is generally normal to a central longitudinal axis thereof.
- 6. A fitting having first and second legs extending with respect to each other at a nominal included angle that differs from a nominal right angle.
- 7. The fitting of claim 6 wherein said nominal included angle is of a value that is outside a range of values for a nominal right angle formed within normal manufacturing tolerances.
- 8. The fitting of claim 6 wherein said nominal included angle is at least about 1.5° greater than a nominal right angle.
- 9. The fitting of claim 6 wherein at least one of said legs has an end face that is generally normal to a central longitudinal axis thereof.
- 10. The fitting of claim 6 wherein each of said legs has a respective end face that is generally normal to a central longitudinal axis thereof.

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11. The fitting of claim 6 wherein said nominal included angle differs from a nominal right angle by about 1.5 to about 2.5 degrees.

- 12. The fitting as set forth in claim 6 wherein said nominal included angle differs from a nominal right angle by about 2 degrees ± ½ degree.
- 13. A fitting for tube or pipe, said fitting having legs extending at an included angle with respect to each other, said angle being nominal relative to a predetermined manufacturing tolerance, said fitting being drainable by gravity when one of said legs is vertically oriented when manufactured with said included angle being at any dimension within said tolerance.
- 14. A fitting having first and second legs extending transverse to each other at an included angle that differs from a right angle, each one of said legs having an outer end portion with an outer end face, each one of said end portions being orbitally weldable.
- 15. A fitting having first and second legs extending transverse to each other at an included angle and defining an interior passage in said fitting, said fitting being drainable under the force of gravity.
- 16. A fitting having first and second legs extending transverse to each other at an included angle and defining an interior passage in said fitting, wherein a fluid droplet, along the interior passage of said fitting, flows to a plurality of successively lower surface points under the force of gravity until leaving said fitting.
- 17. A method of making a drainable fitting, comprising the steps of: forming a fitting having first and second legs that extend at about a right angle to each other; and

bending the first leg of the fitting about two degrees relative to the second leg of the fitting.

18. A method of making a drainable fitting, comprising the steps of:

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providing a straight length of conduit;

bending the straight length of conduit to form a fitting having first and second legs that extend at an angle to each other of about two degrees more or less than a right angle; and

finishing the fitting.

19. A method of making a drainable fitting, comprising the steps of: providing a fitting having first and second straight sections that are joined by about a 90 degree curved section and that extend at about a right angle to each other;

cutting the fitting along a cut line to remove the first straight section and an adjacent portion of the curved section; and

attaching a straight section to the fitting along the cut line thereby to form a fitting having first and second straight sections that are joined by a curved section of less than about 90 degrees.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said step of attaching a straight section to the fitting is performed by orbital welding.